

**REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
AND JANICE HAHN**

**JANUARY 21, 2020**

**Establishing a Comprehensive Homelessness Crisis Response Strategy in Los Angeles**

On January 8, 2020 Governor Newsom previewed his Homelessness and Mental Health Budget Proposal, which will set aside \$1.4 billion to combat homelessness. He also signed an Executive Order that will make State properties and facilities available for housing and shelter options and directed State personnel to work with local jurisdictions to create more immediate sources of shelter. The Governor’s proposal is a multi-pronged strategy that seeks to address the crisis Statewide and allocates unprecedented resources to urgently bring homeless Californians indoors.

On January 13, 2020, Governor Newsom’s Council of Regional Homeless Advisors (Council) released a letter to the Governor with a series of recommendations, along with a “Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategy (Strategy) to Address Homelessness Statewide” (attached), which is a compendium of 40 legislative and budgetary strategies and recommendations. The Strategy provides a roadmap that complements the Governor’s actions last week to: 1) Bring people home by expediting the building of permanent housing and service-enriched interim housing; 2) Capitalize on

-MORE-

**MOTION**

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RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
HAHN	_____
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the use of public land; 3) Keep people housed, once they are housed with flexible subsidies and services; 4) Break the vicious cycle between jails, hospitals and homelessness; and 5) Use State mental health and Medi-Cal dollars to better target vulnerable populations. Implicit in both Governor Newsom's proposal and the Council's recommendations is a unifying call for State, county and city governments to respond to this crisis with new urgency, boldness and ingenuity.

However, to date, neither moral grounds nor economic incentives have successfully moved Los Angeles County (County) closer to fully harnessing its resources and personnel to bring the County's most vulnerable neighbors, who are interested in accessing services, inside. In fact, by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's estimates, approximately 30,000 unhoused individuals have been assessed and are willing to accept housing services, if available. The County must rapidly create the infrastructure needed to provide all County residents safe, healthy and compassionate options to come indoors and move on a pathway toward a permanent home. The County must be radically expeditious and efficient in these efforts as, on average, one thousand homeless neighbors perish on County streets each year.

The Strategy, coupled with the resources proposed by Governor Newsom, can lay the platform for this new level of engagement, in the County and across the State. Given that the County is the epicenter of the State's homeless crisis, the Board of Supervisors must continue to lead by example and embrace the immediate implementation of strategies to categorically change the course of this crisis.

**WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Receive and file the California Regional Council of Homeless Advisor's (Council) "Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategy to Address Homelessness Statewide";
2. With the goal of establishing an accountability framework in which the County of Los Angeles (County), in partnership with the State, could ensure shelter or

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housing for all those ready and willing to receive such services, instruct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), led by the Office of Emergency Management and the Countywide Homeless Initiative, in collaboration with relevant County Departments including County Counsel, Health Services, Mental Health, Public Social Services, Public Works, Regional Planning, as well as the Los Angeles County Development Authority, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, and city partners, and in coordination with State officials, to report back to the Board of Supervisors (Board) within 60 days with the following:

- a. A prioritized strategy for implementing or scaling up, where feasible, and advocating where appropriate, the recommendations outlined in the “Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategy to Address Homelessness Statewide”;
  - b. A legal framework and proposed implementation strategy, developed in conjunction with the previously-requested Urgent Housing Initiative, which includes targets and a timeline, to pilot an effort to ensure shelter or housing for those ready and willing to receive such services (Crisis Response Framework);
  - c. An assessment of available funding, including General Relief and Mental Health Services Act dollars, to implement the aforementioned Crisis Response Framework, in the broader context of the County’s current efforts to end homelessness, and the extent to which these resources would need to be further scaled up, in partnership with the State;
3. Direct the County’s legislative advocates in Sacramento to to:
- a. Support the proposed framework of Governor Newsom’s 2020-2021 Homelessness and Mental Health Budget Proposal, and related budgetary action that would optimize State funding to local jurisdictions, including counties, as well as the budget proposal sponsored by

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Housing California and the Corporation for Supportive Housing, for ongoing housing and services to address homelessness, modeled on the County's Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool, as well as legislative amendments that would remove zoning restrictions and other barriers to the "by right" use of publicly-owned and controlled property for shelters and supportive/affordable housing to comprehensively address the homelessness crisis; and

- b. Actively engage in legislative solutions such as AB 1907 (Santiago) and AB 22 (Burke), which would create the legal framework and financial resources for jurisdictions to aid individuals who want to come indoors in doing so.

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(CG/KK/DW)